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CALIFORNIA STATE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH

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GUY P. JONES
Editor

CALIFORNIA MARRIAGES INCREASE

During the first six months of the present year, 36,207 marriages were registered in California, which represents an increase of 14,000 marriages over the number registered during the first six months of 1941. Furthermore, during June of this year, 8,311 marriages were registered within the State, which is the largest number ever to have been registered in a single month. The condition, of course, is not normal, as marriages always increase phenomenally when a country is at war. This is indicated clearly in the fact that the most conspicuous increases occur in the larger centers of population and in those counties of the State where armed forces are concentrated.

Marriages in Los Angeles County, for instance, jumped from 9,596 during the first half of 1941 to 13,910 during the first half of 1942. In Sacramento County, marriages more than doubled, 355 having been performed in the first half of 1941, and 776 in the first half of 1942. The most outstanding increase, however, occurred in San Diego County, where 909 marriages were performed in the first half of 1941, and 2,618 in the first half of 1942. In Solano County there were 140 marriages registered in the first half of 1941, and 320 in the first half of 1942. San Luis Obispo County also registered a phenomenal increase; during the first six months of last year, 234 marriages were registered, and during the first six months of this year, 815 marriages were recorded within the county. In San Francisco, the nuptial events almost doubled, 2,339 having been registered during the first half of last year, and 4,348 during the first half of the current year. A remarkable increase also occurred in Monterey County, the number of marriages having

leaped from 377 during the first half of 1941 to 1,112 during the first half of 1942.

Conspicuous increases are also noted in Sonoma, Santa Barbara, San Mateo, San Joaquin, San Bernardino, Riverside, Marin, Kern and Alameda counties. In Alameda County there were 1,655 marriages registered during the first half of last year, and 2,813 during the first half of this year.

There is no indication that the premarital examination law has had any effect in reducing the numbers of marriages in California during the first half of this year. Members of the armed forces generally do not have sufficient leave to permit them to journey to Nevada for the marriage ceremony, and the expense of the trip to the adjoining State may also be a factor.

Since the premarital examination law became effective in September of 1939, there has been a marked reduction in the numbers of marriages recorded in California. In 1940 there were but 46,564 marriages registered within the State, and in 1941 there were 48,887 such events recorded. In connection with these facts, it is interesting to note that State records show a total of 18,498 blood tests having been performed in laboratories of California during June of 1942, 173 or 0.77 per cent of which proved positive. It would seem that any fear harbored by prospective brides and grooms lest their blood tests prove positive may now be dispelled. While the remarkable current increase in marriages can not be regarded as normal, the exceedingly low percentage of positive blood tests indicates that the number of prospective brides and grooms who may be infected with syphilis is reduced greatly.

The following table gives the numbers of marriages registered in the various counties of California during the period January to June, inclusive, of 1941 and 1942, as well as the numbers of marriages, by months, registered in California during the first half of each year 1933 to 1942:

MARRIAGES BY COUNTIES

January to June, inclusive, 1942 and 1941

County	1942	1941
California	36,207	22,008
Alameda	2,813	1,655
Alpine	--	1
Amador	12	8
Butte	95	57
Calaveras	8	4
Colusa	14	13
Contra Costa	253	202
Del Norte	24	28
El Dorado	13	10
Fresno	648	535
Glenn	25	12
Humboldt	132	106
Imperial	65	49
Inyo	13	9
Kern	629	341
Kings	182	94
Lake	14	10
Lassen	5	6
Los Angeles	13,910	9,596
Madera	80	76
Marin	364	167
Mariposa	7	9
Mendocino	55	46
Merced	184	112
Modoc	2	9
Mono	--	--
Monterey	1,112	377
Napa	107	68
Nevada	26	19
Orange	1,183	950
Placer	49	32
Plumas	4	1
Riverside	639	347
Sacramento	776	355
San Benito	48	33
San Bernardino	602	372
San Diego	2,618	909
San Francisco	4,348	2,339
San Joaquin	556	303
San Luis Obispo	815	234
San Mateo	427	278
Santa Barbara	501	311
Santa Clara	887	604
Santa Cruz	217	164
Shasta	59	48
Sierra	--	--
Siskiyou	63	61
Solano	320	140
Sonoma	316	190
Stanislaus	180	179
Sutter	18	7
Tehama	31	23
Trinity	4	4
Tulare	337	225
Tuolumne	15	11
Ventura	305	212
Yolo	53	45
Yuba	44	12

MARRIAGES JANUARY TO JUNE, INCLUSIVE,

1942-1941

By Months

	1942	1941	1940	1939	1938
Totals	36,207	22,008	18,879	29,568	28,734
January	5,600	3,148	2,889	4,680	4,537
February	5,797	3,180	2,555	3,950	3,830
March	5,012	2,764	2,535	4,019	4,060
April	6,200	3,667	3,022	4,569	4,208
May	5,287	3,484	2,939	4,918	4,599
June	8,311	5,765	4,939	7,432	7,500

	1937	1936	1935	1934	1933
Totals	29,793	27,867	25,781	24,719	20,851
January	4,409	4,201	3,977	4,134	3,333
February	4,000	4,058	3,651	3,577	2,916
March	4,428	3,959	3,739	3,593	2,866
April	4,509	4,516	4,194	4,048	3,224
May	4,366	3,870	3,859	3,650	3,393
June	8,081	7,263	6,361	5,717	5,119

INDUSTRIAL HYGIENE INSTITUTES

Following are the dates and locations of the one-day institutes on industrial hygiene, sponsored by the California Medical Association, Committees on Postgraduate Activities and Industrial Practice; the Western Association of Industrial Physicians and Surgeons; and the California State Department of Public Health:

August 18—Hotel Clift, San Francisco

August 19—Crockett—Assemble at Ball Park

Transportation or directions to meetings will be provided

August 21—Hotel Oakland, Oakland

August 25—Hotel El Cortez, San Diego

August 26—Inglewood Country Club, Inglewood

August 27—Tuesday Afternoon Club, Glendale

August 28—Women's Club of Huntington Park, Huntington Park

The institutes will begin at 2.00 p.m. and all physicians, nurses, safety engineers, industrial personnel and health officers are cordially invited to attend.

LONG SERVICE OF DEPARTMENTAL EMPLOYEES

A study of personnel records of the California State Department of Public Health reveals the fact that 41 employees have served the department for 15 years and more, and 24 employees have served for 20 years and over. Eleven employees have served for 25 years and more, and 3 employees have served for more than 30 years. One employee has served since 1908. It is believed that few State governmental units have such long service records as this department.

INDUSTRIAL HYGIENE IMPORTANT IN CALIFORNIA

It is not generally recognized that within the past two years California has been transformed from an agricultural State into an industrial State. Among all of the commonwealths, California ranks first in volume of war contracts, having a total of nearly five and one-half billion dollars of contracts for war material and construction. The State ranks fourth in the number of workers employed in nonagricultural pursuits, having a total labor force of 2,180,000, and the number is increasing rapidly. California also has more than twice as great a percentage of its workers engaged in war industries as does the country as a whole.

In normal times 350,000,000 man-days are lost from industry by workers because of sickness and accident. The U. S. Public Health Service estimates that this time lost would be sufficient to produce 52 battleships, 164,706 combat tanks, or 107 average-size cantonments. It should be noted, however, that since the war production program began, the time lost from industry has increased greatly, and is now estimated to be 400,000,000 man-days annually.

The industrial health problems of California are particularly acute, because of the exceedingly rapid transition from an agricultural to an industrial economy. New industries have been built and old ones expanded so quickly that there has not been sufficient time to insure that workers are safeguarded against hazardous materials and processes.

A new labor force composed of persons who have not worked in industry before, is consequently not health or safety conscious. The earlier migratory workers have moved from the rural areas into the centers of war industry. Also, persons from agricultural and the plain States continue to pour into California where they are going directly into the war industries. The increasing use of women, of older people and of workers with physical defects which disqualify them from military service, also makes the industrial health problems of this State more acute.

The War Production Board has recognized that time lost from illness and injury constitutes a serious impediment to war production. In a letter dated May 29, 1942, and signed by Donald M. Nelson, Chairman, War Production Board, Robert P. Patterson, Under Secretary of War, E. R. Stettinius, Jr., Lend Lease Administrator, Paul V. McNutt, Chairman, War Manpower Commission, James V. Forrestal, Under Secretary of Navy, and E. S. Land, Chairman, Maritime Commission, all Production Drive Committees were urged to develop through industrial hygiene programs in the industries for which they are responsible in

order that there shall be no loss in production because of preventable diseases and accidents.

SAN JOSE HOLDS CLASSES FOR FOOD HANDLERS

The San Jose City Health Department, Dr. Dwight M. Bissell, Health Officer, has announced courses of instruction for food handlers who work in restaurants, cafes, soda fountains and lunch rooms, in order to inform such employees how to maintain establishments in accordance with the rules of sanitation.

The classes, which began August 4th, are voluntary and their maintenance is approved by the owners of food dispensing establishments in San Jose. The course consists of four two-hour classes to deal with bacteria and communicable diseases, sterilization and dishwashing, food handling and equipment maintenance, and interpretation of public health laws and regulations.

Upon completion of the course, the worker will receive a certificate which may be posted in the establishment. Each of those who attend the classes will be given an opportunity to secure a chest X-ray through the offices of the Santa Clara County Tuberculosis Association.

Whenever 80 per cent of the food handlers in an establishment have attended the course, a window card setting forth the fact will be sent to the place of their employment. The card will be revocable and subject to removal when there are fewer than 60 per cent of employees with certificates of attendance. Special classes are being planned now for bartenders, butchers, candy makers and dispensers and other classes of employees.

INFANTILE PARALYSIS STUDY AT STANFORD

The National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis, Inc., has announced a grant of \$6,920 to Stanford University School of Health to provide training in physical therapy for additional students. A grant of \$5,000 has also been made to Stanford University through the American Physiotherapy Association to provide fifty scholarships for properly qualified students in physical therapy.

NEW HEALTH OFFICER FOR SANTA BARBARA COUNTY

Dr. John A. Carswell on July 1st became health officer of Santa Barbara County, succeeding Dr. R. C. Main, who has held the position for many years.

Dr. E. G. Hand of Markleeville has been appointed health officer of Alpine County to succeed Dr. Arthur R. Thompson.

MORBIDITY *

Complete Reports for Certain Diseases Recorded for Week Ending August 1, 1942

Chickenpox

156 cases from the following counties: Alameda 22, Contra Costa 1, Fresno 5, Inyo 12, Kern 2, Lassen 6, Los Angeles 50, Merced 1, Orange 4, Riverside 1, Sacramento 7, San Diego 22, San Francisco 11, San Joaquin 2, San Mateo 2, Santa Clara 6, Siskiyou 1, Tulare 1.

German Measles

97 cases from the following counties: Alameda 18, Fresno 1, Inyo 12, Kern 1, Lassen 1, Los Angeles 20, Monterey 1, Orange 3, Sacramento 4, San Bernardino 1, San Diego 4, San Francisco 10, San Joaquin 1, San Mateo 4, Santa Clara 7, Santa Cruz 1, Sonoma 5, Stanislaus 1, Tulare 2.

Measles

313 cases from the following counties: Alameda 39, Butte 2, Contra Costa 5, Fresno 12, Inyo 19, Kern 3, Kings 1, Los Angeles 84, Madera 1, Marin 8, Orange 15, Plumas 1, Riverside 1, Sacramento 4, San Bernardino 5, San Diego 15, San Francisco 39, San Luis Obispo 1, San Mateo 9, Santa Barbara 1, Santa Clara 10, Santa Cruz 1, Solano 2, Sonoma 3, Stanislaus 2, Tulare 28, Ventura 2.

Mumps

278 cases from the following counties: Alameda 30, Del Norte 1, El Dorado 1, Fresno 26, Kern 4, Kings 1, Los Angeles 67, Madera 1, Marin 2, Monterey 1, Orange 27, Riverside 7, Sacramento 3, San Bernardino 3, San Diego 54, San Francisco 22, San Joaquin 3, San Luis Obispo 2, San Mateo 3, Santa Barbara 1, Santa Clara 10, Solano 1, Stanislaus 1, Sutter 3, Tulare 1, Ventura 3.

Scarlet Fever

37 cases from the following counties: Alameda 2, Butte 1, Inyo 1, Kern 1, Los Angeles 8, Orange 2, Riverside 3, Sacramento 7, San Bernardino 2, San Diego 4, San Francisco 2, Santa Barbara 1, Solano 3.

Whooping Cough

201 cases from the following counties: Alameda 19, Butte 2, Fresno 6, Inyo 2, Los Angeles 47, Orange 11, Placer 1, Sacramento 5, San Bernardino 1, San Diego 44, San Francisco 9, San Joaquin 21, San Luis Obispo 2, Santa Barbara 3, Santa Clara 14, Sonoma 6, Sutter 5, Tulare 2, Ventura 1.

Diphtheria

12 cases from the following counties: Alameda 1, Humboldt 1, Los Angeles 4, Orange 1, Sacramento 2, San Diego 2, San Joaquin 1.

Dysentery, Bacillary

15 cases from the following counties: Contra Costa 1, Los Angeles 7, San Francisco 3, Solano 1, Sonoma 3.

Epilepsy

35 cases from the following counties: Alameda 1, Fresno 1, Inyo 2, Los Angeles 24, Modoc 1, Napa 1, Orange 1, San Francisco 3, Santa Clara 1.

Food Poisoning

9 cases from the following counties: Alameda 6, Los Angeles 2, San Mateo 1.

Influenza

13 cases reported in State.

Jaundice

1 case from Humboldt county.

Malaria

2 cases from the following counties: Sacramento 1, California** 1.

Meningitis, Epidemic

6 cases from the following counties: Alameda 1, Los Angeles 5.

Poliomyelitis

3 cases from the following counties: Los Angeles 2, San Diego 1.

Rabies, Animal

5 cases from the following counties: Fresno 3, Los Angeles 1, San Diego 1.

Relapsing Fever

1 case from Mono county.

* Data regarding the other reportable diseases not listed herein, may be obtained upon request.

** Cases charged to "California" represent patients ill before entering the State or those who contracted their illness traveling about the State throughout the incubation period of the disease. These cases are not chargeable to any one locality.

Rheumatic Fever

1 case from San Diego county.

Typhoid Fever

1 case from San Francisco county.

Undulant Fever

4 cases from the following counties: Los Angeles 2, Merced 1, San Luis Obispo 1.

And in the end, through the long ages of our quest for light, it will be found that truth is still mightier than the sword. Because out of all the welter of human carnage and human sorrow and human weal the one great indestructible thing that will always live on is a sound idea.—Gen. Douglas MacArthur.

The California State Department of Public Health is proud of the members of its staff who have entered the armed forces of the United States. It is with a sense of great pride that the names of the following men who have entered such forces are listed here:

UNITED STATES NAVY

Lloyd P. Bascom
Alcor Browne
O. L. Butterfield
James R. Keefer
Francis J. Lenehan
Rollyn E. Malde
E. B. Mansfield
John Martin, M.D.
Jack W. Pratt
Don Roberts
Robert E. Ryan

UNITED STATES ARMY

Ray Atkinson, M.D.
Beckwith Clark
Jules Comroe, M.D.
Leon Comroe, M.D.
Joseph Copeland, M.D.
Sidney F. Dommies, Jr.
Robert Dyar, M.D.
J. J. Fitzgerald, M.D.
Herbert B. Foster
George Husser, M.D.
Edward Maher, M.D.
Richard Peters
Julius R. Scholtz, M.D.
Joseph B. Smith

UNITED STATES MARINES

John Cruzan

C. D. Leake,
Department of Pharmacology,
University of California
Medical School,
San Francisco, Calif.

